B.E. Grottum of Jackson; was regent and senator

B.E. Grottum, 94, a retired lawyer and banker in Jackson, Minn., and a former state senator, died Oct. 4 in Mesa, Ariz. He was a senator from 1948 to 1955 and a member of the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota from 1961 to 1967.

Grottum was born Aug. 9, 1893, in Minneapolis but spent most of his life in Jackson in southern Minnesota. After obtaining his law degree from the University of Minnesota in 1920 he practiced law and served as Jackson County attorney.

In 1947 Grottum was elected state senator representing the 10th district. He was reelected in 1949, 1951 and 1953:

He listed himself as a DFLer but often caucused with the Conservative majority of the Senate. By 1961 he had given up all formal political ties because he "felt the Legislature should be truly nonpartisan," he said in an interview in 1961.

Grottum resigned from his law practice in 1956 to become president of the Jackson Bank.



B.E. Grottum

He returned to the University of Minnesota more than 40 years after his graduation to become a regent in 1961.

Grottum is survived by a daughter, Mary Ann Troup of Green Bay, Wis.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday in Sathe and Son Funeral Home in Jackson.